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Cc: McGrath, Shaun[McGrath.Shaun@epa.gov]; Cantor, Howard[cantor.howard@epa.gov]; Smith, Paula[Smith.Paula@epa.gov]; Mylott, Richard[Mylott.Richard@epa.gov]
From: Fells, Sandy
Sent: Thur 10/24/2013 10:24:52 PM
Subject: Region 8 EPA response to OEAAE Request for info - successes in first 100 days

Hello -- On behalf of Paula Smith, Region 8 Director of Communications and Public Involvement, following are three items in response to your request.

Please let Paula or me know if you have questions.

Thank you,

Sandy Fells

Regional Congressional Liaison

EPA, Region 8, Denver

303-312-6604

Climate Panel – August 14, 2013

Region 8 convened a panel of Colorado experts to discuss perspectives on a collaborative and scientific approach to making the President's Climate Action Plan a reality in the West. The event was extremely well attended by over 350 representatives of business and industry, interest groups, federal-, state-, local- and tribal- government entities, and academia (including CU students). U.S. Senator Mark Udall opened the session and introduced EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy who spoke about the President's Plan and EPA's involvement. The panel discussion was moderated by EPA Regional Administrator Shaun McGrath. Panel members were: former Colorado Governor Bill Ritter, currently Director of the Center for the New Energy Economy at Colorado State University; Tisha Schuller, President & Chief Executive Officer of the Colorado Oil and Gas Association; and Brad Udall, Director of the Getches-Wilkinson Center at the University of Colorado School of Law. Each panel member gave a short presentation on their organization's information, interests and ideas regarding the President's Climate Action Plan, followed by the panel addressing

questions from the audience as time permitted. EPA received extensive positive feedback on the event and the Weather Channel created an a nationally distributed video illustrating the impact climate of climate change, including an exclusive interview with Administrator McCarthy.

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Primacy application from ND for delegation of UIC Class VI

EPA anticipates making a final decision on this primacy application in 2014. If approved, North Dakota would become the first state in the nation to obtain UIC Class VI primacy. Background: A *Federal Register* notice was signed by the Regional Administrator and published August 9, 2013, stating that the EPA Office of Water (OW) received a formal Underground Injection Control (UIC) Class VI (CO₂ geo-sequestration) primacy application from North Dakota on June 21, 2013 and announcing an opportunity for initial public comment and to request a public hearing. The comment period closed September 9. One substantive comment was received on the application's draft EPA/ND Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) regarding EPA vs. State regulatory authorities. EPA has reached agreement on clarifying MOA language with the State in response to this comment and is preparing a second notice for EPA's decision on whether to grant primacy through formal rulemaking.

EPA Flood Assistance in Colorado

Since record floods hit Colorado in early September, EPA Region 8 has been involved in a variety of tasks to assess the damage and support local recovery efforts. Region 8 has been: 1) collecting orphan containers spread throughout the flood debris in several river drainages and multiple communities; 2) assisting in recovering and draining over 3,000 fuel tanks and other containers washed away by flood waters; 3) assisting the Army Corps of Engineers in evaluating the status of water and wastewater treatment plants; 4) repairing several tailings impoundments of former mining wastes impacted by the flooding where community water supplies are threatened; 5) assisting communities in their cleanup efforts through the collection and disposal of household hazardous waste; and 6) continuing to work with the Corps to expedite review and approval of "Nationwide" Clean Water Act Section 404 permits under emergency procedures to authorize dredging projects within 24 hours. These permits allow removal of flood-deposited materials from the waterbodies, and the material is being used as fill for repair of damaged infrastructure and roads.

From: Reynolds, Thomas

Sent: Wednesday, October 23, 2013 9:06 AM

To: Assistant Administrators; Regional Administrators; Associate Administrators

Cc: PADs and Alternates; KeyesFleming, Gwen; Fritz, Matthew; Bloomgren, David; Rivas-Vazquez, Victoria

Subject: Request for info - successes in first 100 days

We are quickly coming up on the 100 day mark for Administrator McCarthy's term and we are working to capture some of the successes we've seen in that time. It is the Oct 27th or 28th depending on your count.

We've started a running list here OPA, based on our own thoughts, but wanted to hear directly from the AAs and RAs about what they have seen in their own programs and regions.

As we work to highlight some of the accomplishments, I'd ask you to send to me, David Bloomgren and Vicki Rivas-Vasquez 2-3 highlights from your own area of the sand box.

These should be short, 3-4 lines, similar in fashion to the weekly updates send to the Administrator. It would be helpful to point out any tangible benefits, or projected benefits. I would not focus on distribution of grant money, but rather want those grants will lead to. Any particular clean-up process we have made on particular sites. New research that's started, or progress we have made on existing efforts.

There is a wide berth here, but the goal should be tangible, quantifiable (or eventually tangible and quantifiable) progress. I 'd avoid including is scheduling meetings, hosting round tables, etc.

I think there is clearly plenty of material to point to, and your personal input will help in this effort tremendously. Ultimately, this material will be used for internal comms pieces, for the Admin and Deputy Admin speeches, and social and media amplification.

Now the hard part: ideally, it would be useful to capture this material by COB on Thursday, Oct 24. I know that is a very short turnaround, but we aren't asking for much, so hopefully the lift won't be too heavy.

Many thanks in advance for your help, please let me know if you have any questions, and happy

to discuss further at senior policy this afternoon.

Best,

Tom Reynolds

EPA Associate Administrator for External Affairs

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